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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

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- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AU, BA, BB, BR, BZ, CA, CN, CO, CR, CU, DM, DZ, EC, GE, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KP, KR, LC, LK, LR, LT, LV, MA, MG, MK, MN, MX, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, RO, SC, SG, TN, TT, UA, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)

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(54) Title: HEPATITIS C VIRUS SUB-GENOMIC REPLICONS

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates generally to the construction of sub-genomic HCV replicon systems that may provide the foundation for generating HCV replicons of all six major genotypes and subtypes to facilitate screening, testing, and evaluating anti-infective agents for HCV disease(s).

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/10177

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : C07H 21/04

US CL : 536/23.72

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 424/218.1, 228.1; 435/5, 69.1, 320.1; 536/23.1, 23.4, 23.72, 24.1

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|---------------|--|---|
| X --- Y | US 2001/0034019 A1 (HONG et al.) 25 October 2001 (25.10.2001), see figure 1. | 1,2,17, 18, 20, 21 ----- 3, 9, 19 |
| X --- A | US 6,326,137 B1 (HONG et al.) 4 December 2001 (4.12.2001), see figure 1. | 1,17, 18, 20, 21 ----- 2-16, 19 |
| Y --- A | LOHMANN et al. Replication of subgenomic hepatitis C virus RNAs in a hepatoma cell line. Science, July 1999, Vol. 285, No.5424, pages 110-113. | 1, 5, 9, 12, 20, 21 ----- 2-4, 6-8, 10, 11, 13-19 |
| Y --- A | EP 1043399A2 (BARTENSCHLAGER) 10 November 2000 (10.11.2000), see claims. | 1, 5, 9, 12, 20, 21 ----- , 6-8, 10, 11, 13-19 |
| A | BARTENSCHLAGER et al. Replication of hepatitis C virus. Journal of General Virology, July 2000, Vol. 81, No.7, pages 1631-1648. | 1-21 |



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PCT/US03/10177

C. (Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|--|-----------------------|
| A | LOHMANN et al. Mutations in hepatitis C virus RNAs conferring cell culture adaptation. Journal of Virology. February 2001, Vol. 75, No. 3, pages 1437-1449. | 1-21 |
| A | FRIEBE et al. Sequences in the 5' nontranslated region of hepatitis C virus required for RNA replication. Journal of Virology, December 2001 Vol. 75, No. 24, pages 12047-12057. | 1-21 |

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/US03/10177

Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:
WEST, DERWENT, STN-EMBASE MEDLINE BIOSIS
hepatitis C virus, HCV, chimera, flavivirus, replicon, NS5B polymerase, inventor search.